



Instructions for Reviewers of Perspectives

SCIENCE'S MISSION: *Science* seeks to publish those papers that are most influential in their fields and that will significantly advance scientific understanding. Selected papers should present novel and broadly important data, syntheses, or concepts. They should merit the recognition by the scientific community and general public provided by publication in *Science*, beyond that provided by specialty journals.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGMENT

Perspectives are short overviews of current research findings, intended for a broad audience of scientists. They may accompany a paper in *Science*, discuss work published elsewhere, or describe results presented at a workshop or conference. Perspectives should add a fresh dimension to the topic of discussion and not merely summarize results or papers.

Overall Recommendation: On the basis of the mission statement above, recommend in your review whether the Perspective should be published in *Science* and provide a critique based on the following:

Impact: Please evaluate to what extent the synthesis in the Perspective is novel, broadly important or provides needed insight on a topic. Perspectives are not a venue for an author to promote his or her own work. Authors may refer to their own papers but this should not be the focus of the commentary. Perspectives may contain opinion but should provide a balanced view; statements of fact should be supported by references. Perspectives should tell the reader about future prospects and implications.

Figure: The figure should illustrate the essential message of the Perspective. The aim is to catch the eye while informing the reader. Complex and detailed diagrams, charts, tables, and graphs are to be avoided.

References: The reference list should be no more than 15 items, emphasizing the most recent literature.

Length: Perspectives may be up to 1.3 printed pages (1000 words plus one figure).

The final selection is based on relative quality of papers rather than absolute merit and is constrained by available space in Science and our commitment to balance subject matter.

Security: We ask reviewers to inform us if they have concerns that release of this paper may pose a danger to public health, safety, or security. Such concerns will be brought to the attention of the Editor-in-Chief for further evaluation.

Conflict of Interest: If you cannot judge this paper impartially, please notify us immediately. If you have any financial or professional affiliations that may be perceived as a conflict of interest in reviewing the manuscript, please describe those as indicated on our online review form.

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